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Letter dated 26 January 2010 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as President of the Security Council, I am forwarding to you a letter dated 11 January 2010 from the Chairman of the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict established by Security Council resolution 1612 (2005), based on the Working Group's conclusions adopted on 18 December 2009 (S/AC.51/2009/6) (see annex).

(Signed) **Zhang** Yesui
President of the Security Council

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Annex to the letter dated 26 January 2010 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

Letter dated 11 January 2010 from the Chairman of the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict addressed to the Secretary-General

On 12 October 2009, the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, established by Security Council resolution 1612 (2005), examined the report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict in Burundi (S/2009/450). Following its meeting on 18 December 2009, the Working Group adopted its conclusions on the parties to the armed conflict in Burundi (S/AC.51/2009/6).

As a follow-up to the recommendations of the Working Group, approved by the Security Council, and subject to and consistent with applicable international law and relevant Security Council resolutions, including Security Council resolutions 1612 (2005) and 1882 (2009), I am entrusted, in my capacity as the Chairman of the Working Group, to *commend* the efforts undertaken by the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi and the United Nations Children's Fund, in coordination with the Government of Burundi, to contribute actively to the protection of children and their efforts to engage with the Forces Nationales de Liberation, as well as the alleged dissidents of the Forces Nationales de Liberation in order to put an end to child recruitment and to facilitate the release of affected children.

In this regard, I request your Excellency to urge the United Nations system to support and to integrate child protection in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process in Burundi, and I invite your Excellency to call upon the international community to continue to allocate adequate funding for capacity-building in Burundi for disarmament, demobilization and long-term reintegration programmes for children.

Finally, I also kindly request your Excellency to prepare a follow-up report on implementation of the conclusions of the Working Group to be issued in 2010.

(*Signed*) Claude **Heller**
Chairman of the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict